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## JAPANESE CONSUL GENERAL IS TO PROBE CONDITIONS IN HILO JAIL

Declares That He Has Not Investigated Report That Japanese Prisoner Died of Beriberi While Awaiting Trial, or That Others Were Worked, Naked, on the Roads or the Big Island



SAMUEL K. PUA, Hawaii county sheriff, now under fire as result of Hilo jail scandal.

Just what the conditions prevailing at the jail in Hilo, really are, Japanese Consul General Hisakichi Eitaki is determined to learn. Yesterday he sent a wireless to his agent in the Hawaii town, demanding a full investigation of the charge that a Japanese, awaiting trial, has fallen victim to beriberi, and that other Japanese have been worked on the roads of the Big Island, minus proper clothing.

The consul general this morning said that this was the first report which he had heard concerning the conditions in the Hilo jail. He received the information yesterday afternoon and immediately sent the telegram in order to find out the truth. As yet, no details have arrived at the consulate in answer to the message, and Consul Eitaki was unable to talk further on the matter.

"During my trip to the island of Hawaii about a month ago," he said this morning, "I heard nothing whatever that any such conditions existed in the Hilo jail, and as I made no investigation of the jail myself, I can make no definite statement yet. I have been told that the prisoners were treated inhumanely, that one of the Japanese prisoners had died from beriberi, and that the prisoners were working absolutely naked. The only reason that I can think of for this is, if it be true, is that as there are so many prisoners in the jail there is not enough clothing to go around. As we have no representative in Hilo to report these alleged conditions, if they exist, I at once sent a telegram to the officials of that city, in behalf of the Japanese prisoners in the jail, requesting an investigation of the matter. As yet, I have received no answer."

In speaking of the alleged death of one of the Japanese prisoners from beriberi, the Consul said that, had there been any death from this disease it was probably due to the eating of mouldy rice. Many deaths from this cause, he said, occur in Japan at frequent intervals. As to referring the matter to Washington in case these conditions were found to exist in the Hilo jail, Mr. Eitaki said that he was not ready to talk on that matter.

The board of health of Honolulu is planning an investigation of the matter. Dr. Pratt says that he was sure that Dr. Bowman, who is the chief sanitary inspector at Hilo, is now making a thorough investigation of the matter, and also that until the local board hears from him they will be unable to take any action. The jailer in charge of the Hilo jail has been openly charged with being responsible for the sanitary condition of the jail, and that ordinary precautions in the cleaning of the place and preparation of the food for the prisoners would prevent beriberi breaking out, and it is further believed that this exposure will result in the dismissal of the jailer and the removal of the jail.

**Officials Unconcerned.**  
Territorial and federal officials in Honolulu are not taking much interest in the conditions alleged to exist in the jail at Hilo, where a case of beriberi is said to have been discovered recently. Neither are they inclined at the present time to take any drastic action or make in a campaign or official head hunting.

If beriberi has been found in the Hilo jail, that is a matter for the county officials of Hilo to worry about. Territorial and federal officials stationed in that city have not seen fit to notify the heads of their departments here that the conditions require recognition and the impression prevails is the vivid yarns it has elicited from the facile typewriter of enterprising newspaper reporters.

"I suppose Sanitary Inspector Bowman is on the job over there," commented Dr. J. S. B. Pratt, president of the territorial board of health, when asked regarding the situation, "but it will remain a county matter, for the county officials to cope with, unless Bowman finds it really serious. But he has not sent us any word to that effect yet. If conditions in the Hilo jail are bad and official investigations are required, it is up to their grand jury over there to look into the matter."

### ILLINOIS MAN SEES MANY IMPROVEMENTS

"You have certainly made many improvements in the twelve years since I was here before," said F. T. Pritchard of Woodhull, Illinois, to a Star-Bulletin reporter.

"I notice particularly the improvements in the rural parts. Twelve years ago I remember seeing a small pineapple plantation upon a hillside, which I understand has gone under, but the development of the pineapple industry here has been extraordinary. We have visited one of the pineapple canneries, and it was exceedingly interesting to see the preparation of this fruit for the breakfast table, where we never want to miss it."

"We intend to stay here for the Floral Parade."

Mr. and Mrs. Pritchard are guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Howard, Berea, Ohio. Mr. Pritchard was here twelve years ago at the institution of the Sisters.

### FEDERAL GRAND JURY FOR COMING TERM MADE PUBLIC

The following have been drawn for the Federal grand jury for the coming term. They will be called for service January 27. James Henderson, Honolulu; Charles L. Hall, Honolulu; Eugene K. Mikan, Honolulu; Arthur K. Jones, Honolulu; Paul O. Schmidt, Honolulu; Samuel J. Soria, Honolulu; Louis Chitt, Honolulu; William L. L. L. Honolulu; Charles Blackstad, Honolulu; Kenneth E. D. Crockett, Honolulu; A. J. Campbell, Honolulu; E. E. Harrison, Honolulu; J. Smeaton, Honolulu; Harry C. Bruns, Honolulu; F. C. Anderson, Honolulu; John Effinger, Honolulu; Lewis Stoddard, Honolulu; H. P. Rode, Honolulu; W. D. Adams, Honolulu; James Wakefield, Honolulu.

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## 'BRONC. BUSTERS' TO 'BUST' MULE

Advertised as a challenge performance—whatever that may be, tonight's change of program at the Liberty Theatre gives promise of furnishing something new in vaudeville. "Bill" Fernandez and "Slim" Kupa, both possessing considerable local reputation as "Broncho-Busters" have accepted the challenge of Mrs. Harrison, and will attempt, at both performances tonight, to ride the bucking mule, "Dynamite." The terms of the match are to the effect that the would-be-rider must mount the mule, unaided, and stay on its back, in an upright position, for at least one minute, and as an incentive to increase earnestness in the contest, Manager McGreer has promised the successful rider, should there be one, five dollars for every minute he conforms with the terms of the contest that makes him eligible for a win. Both Fernandez and Kupa are said to be experts at buck-riding, but, as "Dynamite" is also an expert buckster some fun out of the usual may be expected.

The balance of the bill will be composed of new pictures, "Electra," Delella and Orma.

## 'CHECKERS' AT THE BIJOU TONIGHT

"Checkers," Wink La Shelle's great play of the race-track, will hold the boards at the Bijou theatre this week, beginning tonight, and from the increased cast and specially painted scenery, it is evident that this production will be the best which has thus far been offered by the World's Fair Stock Company before a Honolulu audience.

Those who have seen "Checkers" are ready to admit that it is the best of LaShelle's productions, and in playing it, the popular stock company has outdone all previous records in stage craft. The famous race track scene will be in evidence as well as over one hundred extra people and six real, spirited horses. A novel racing effect has been arranged and no doubt will prove to be the feature of the entire play. Miss Brissac will be seen in a character which will add to her honors, while Howard Nugent and John Wray will both have strong parts.

### STOCKS CONTINUE THEIR ACTIVITY

Stocks continue to look up, in point of activity, as if the prospects for the first half of the year had been duly discounted. Haiku has its first trimming following dividend reduction recorded today, selling down by the tremendous slam of ninety points to 125 for 10 shares, the last previous sale having been 215. Against this is an advance of 1.50 in Hawaiian Sugar, 70 shares in four unequal lots being reported sold at 35.50. Hawaiian Commercial is shaded down a quarter point to 32.75 for two blocks of 50 each reported. Oahu is unchanged at 23.50 for 95 shares in four unequal lots in recess and 15 and 10 shares on the board. Pioneer is unchanged at 26.50 for 25 shares in recess. Oahu Railway remains at its reduced rate of yesterday, 135, for 25 shares. Besides the sales of Oahu the only business at today's session was \$2000 Hilo Extension sixes at 94.50.

More publicity than he expected is the explanation Capt. George Steunberger has sent to a magazine which recently printed his verses, scoring the German training of the Turkish army. He says the lines were intended to "destroy them had he known that they would have gone broadcast over the land as a "casus belli."

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